

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 1, 3, 20, and 21 are pending, with Claims 1 and 20 being independent.

Claims 1 and 20 have been amended. Claim 21 has been added.

Claims 1 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,361,905 (Toshinobu, et al.). Claim 20 was objected to and indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. All rejections and objections are respectfully traversed.

Objected-to Claim 20 has been rewritten in independent form.

Claim 1 recites, inter alia, that changing the reading processing control comprises changing the condition.

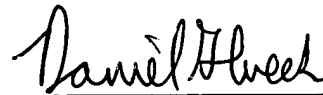
However, Applicant respectfully submits that Toshinobu, et al. fails to disclose or suggest at least the above-discussed claimed feature as recited, inter alia, in Claim 1. It is further respectfully submitted that there has been no showing of any indication of motivation in the cited document that would lead one having ordinary skill in the art to arrive at the above-discussed claimed feature.

The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from independent claims discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Daniel S. Glueck". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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